

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 681

By Langster

A RESOLUTION to commend Commissioner Dorothy B. Shell for her honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee in the Department of Personnel.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Dorothy B. Shell, a highly respected member of the Nashville community, is one such person who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, a career state employee, she has served the people of Tennessee for 30 years in many capacities, particularly in the Department of Personnel; and

WHEREAS, throughout her exemplary tenure in the Department of Personnel, Ms. Shell has distinguished herself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to her community; and

WHEREAS, she has held numerous positions within the Department of Personnel, including Supervisor of Technical Services; Director of Employee Records and Payroll; Assistant Commissioner of Human Relations and Technical Services; and Deputy Commissioner; in each position, she served with acumen and alacrity, earning the respect and admiration of her peers and superiors alike for the exemplary quality of her work; and

WHEREAS, after many years of diligent service to the people of Tennessee, Dorothy B. Shell was appointed to her current position of Commissioner of the Department of Personnel by Governor Don Sundquist in 1999; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Shell's matchless work ethic and outstanding leadership abilities are exemplary and allow her to effectively motivate the employees in the Department of Personnel to achieve their greatest potential; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Shell's unparalleled knowledge of personnel policies and procedures enables her to supervise nine divisions of the Department, in addition to serving as the Secretary of the Civil Service Commission; and

WHEREAS, as Commissioner, Dorothy B. Shell has served as a member of the Council on Pensions and Retirement, the Board of Claims, and the State Group Insurance Committee for the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, A member of the Meharry Circle of Friends, Commissioner Shell is an integral part of the Nashville community; she has served in numerous capacities with the Girl Scouts of America; the YWCA Board of Nashville; the YWCA Job Readiness Committee; the United Way Allocations Committee as an advocate for the Boy Scouts of America; The Women's Issues Task Force of the Legislative Retreat; and the Nashville State Technical Institute's Advisory Committee; and

WHEREAS, Dorothy B. Shell has been a member of the Fifteenth Avenue Baptist Church for many years; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Shell's remarkable success as a public servant and civic leader is directly attributable to her unswerving reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and her uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, an extremely giving person who often reaches out with compassion to people whom life has treated unkindly, Ms. Shell epitomizes the ideal of the consummate professional, dedicated public servant, and reliable friend and neighbor; and

WHEREAS, her many accomplishments aside, Dorothy B. Shell is fortunate to share both love and companionship with her husband, Dr. Albert G. Shell, with whom she loves to travel; her daughter, Vanessa; and her granddaughter, Chelsea; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Shell is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby commend Commissioner Dorothy B. Shell for her honorable and astute service in the Department of Personnel to the good people of Tennessee and salute her unswerving commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.